

seven months of Iraqi occupation resulting in a six-week war, and cumulating in 100 hours of land attacks, Iraq was forced to withdraw from Kuwait. When it was all over, 697,000 U.S. troops had been deployed to the area and had helped gain freedom for the Kuwaitis. We honor the courageous men and women who fought in the war and especially those who lost their lives while fighting to protect the ideals America stands for; that is, freedom and liberty for all.

As Americans, we enjoy many freedoms. When our Forefathers declared independence from Britain, they cited the "right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" as the rights of all citizens. These inalienable rights cannot be taken away by anyone. After America won its independence and had drafted a constitution, a section was added to secure certain rights of all Americans. This addendum was called the Bill of Rights, and it ensures all citizens freedom of speech and freedom of religion. Unfortunately, we sometimes take these freedoms for granted and forget that not all people around the world enjoy the same inalienable rights that we do, nor can they protect themselves from aggressors who threaten to take away their liberty.

When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, he took away their freedom and threatened to oppress the people. As a promotor of freedom and liberty, the United States stepped in to defend the rights of Kuwaitis. Although war is a grave option, all people deserve the chance to live without oppression. Before turning to war, our first move is to find a solution peacefully through negotiations. Yet, sometimes this option fails. As much as we want to achieve world peace through diplomatic means, the unfortunate reality is that sometimes we face many complicated international problems, which must be dealt with in other ways.

Because of the actions of Saddam Hussein, the Persian Gulf War was unavoidable. The U.S. Armed Forces came together with our Allies to fight for the rights of the people of Kuwait. We should be proud of the heroic men and women, including the members of the Minnesota Reserve and Guard, who fought for the freedom of others. These men and women put their lives on the line without hesitation.

Mr. President, eight years ago, American soldiers bravely won freedom for a small country in the Middle East. I am honored today to pay tribute to these courageous men and women who fought in the Persian Gulf War.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BARNEY DWYER

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to friend and former colleague in Congress, Bernard Dwyer. Barney, as he was affectionately known, was a devoted public servant and respected New Jerseyan,

having served 12 years in the House of Representatives.

Mr. President, you might not know how devoted he actually was, since he never delivered a speech on the floor of the House. But Barney was proud of that record.

He worked proudly, and tirelessly, behind the scenes in Congress as a member of the House Appropriations Committee to fund myriad projects for New Jersey and for the country. Only some of the examples of his hard work was his support of AMTRAK and New Jersey's transportation funding needs, his backing of an alcohol abuse program at Rutgers University, and his assistance in helping the Red Cross receive grants for AIDS education programs. Whether he was improving sidewalks, street lamps, public schools or community park paths, Barney approached his work with the same diligence and passion.

Mr. President, Barney began his career over forty years ago, serving as councilman and mayor in Edison, New Jersey. He then served as a state senator of New Jersey for six years, acting as both senate majority leader and as chairman of the Legislature's joint appropriations committee.

Before going into politics, Barney also served in World War II. He was the believed to be the only member of Congress to have survived the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Mr. President, Barney Dwyer stood out in New Jersey's political community as warm, compassionate, modest, even humble. He was an honorable statesman and a man of the highest integrity. And he will be sorely missed.

I would like to send my sincerest condolences to Barney's family.●

#### TRIBUTE TO WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Women's Resource Center of Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties in Pennsylvania for providing more than 20 years of shelter and counseling to adults and children who have been victims of violence at the hands of family members, partners or someone else they know.

The Center will display a memorial exhibit, "An Empty Place at the Table," in the Rotunda of the Senate Russell Building on February 24 and 25 to ensure that the brutal deaths of women and children are not forgotten.

In the United States a woman is beaten by her partner or former partner every 12 seconds, and, according to the FBI, 26 percent of all female murder victims are killed by their husbands or boyfriends.

The Women's Resource Center, established in 1977, has demonstrated a commitment to their community by providing more than 18,000 hours of crisis services. These services include a 24

hour hotline, an emergency shelter, crisis counseling and advocacy to more than 2,000 adults and children each year, as well as numerous hours of educational programming with the legal system, schools, businesses, professionals and faith communities on the dynamics of abuse and assault. The Center provides their services under the strictest confidentiality and free of charge and discrimination.

Mr. President, the Center's memorial exhibit reveals how violence undeniably leaves an empty place at the table. I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending the Women's Resource Center for its leadership and commitment to restoring the fundamental right to live free from fear in our own homes.●

#### EXPLANATION OF VOTE

● Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on rollcall votes No. 17 and No. 18, I am recorded as voting "not guilty." I ask that the RECORD reflect that, in fact, when the roll was called, I stood and voted, "not proven, therefore not guilty" on both votes.●

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

##### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: No. 6 and 7, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk and the Coast Guard. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations were agreed to.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

##### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

William Clyburn, Jr., of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2000.

Wayne O. Burkes, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2002.

##### IN THE COAST GUARD

Coast Guard nomination of George W. Molessa, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 3, 1999.

Coast Guard nominations beginning James W. Kelly, and ending John J. Santucci, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 3, 1999.

Coast Guard nominations beginning James E. Malene, and ending Steven M. Wischmann, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 3, 1999.